

REMARKS

The present application includes claims 1-42. Claims 9-10, 13-14, 30-31 and 34-42 were objected to by the Examiner. Claims 1-42 were rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 7, 9-11, 13-20, 24, 26-34, 37-38 and 42 have been amended.

Claims 9-10, 13-14, 30-31 and 34-42 were objected to as informal. As discussed below, each objection is remedied by this amendment.

Claims 1 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bilotti et al., U.S. Patent Application Republication No. 2004/0100791.

Claims 1 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Walker et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,911,493.

Claims 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 19, 24-25, 29-30, 34 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wheaton, U.S. Patent No. 6,209,147.

Claims 19-21, 24-25 and 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gugel et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,584,357.

Claims 19-21, 24-25 and 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Zamarin, EP Patent No. 0851,178.

Claims 2-4, 7, 19-21, 25, 29-30, 34, 36 and 38-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilotti et al., U.S. Patent Application Republication No. 2004/0100791, or Walker et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,911,493, in view of Zamarin, EP Patent No. 0851,178.

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Claims 19-21, 24-25, 28-34 and 36-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woolford, U.S. Patent No. 5,776,559, in view of Zamarin, EP Patent No. 0851,178.

Claims 11 and 14-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,911,493, in view of Woolford, U.S. Patent No. 5,776,559.

Claims 9, 26 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wheaton, U.S. Patent No. 6,209,147, in view of Gladsden et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,215,831.

Claims 22-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gugel et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,584,357, or Zamarin, EP Patent No. 0851,178, in view of Kildow, U.S. Patent No. 6,070,808.

Claims 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gugel et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,584,357, or Zamarin, EP Patent No. 0851,178, in view of Gladsden et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,215,831.

Claims 10, 27 and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilotti et al., U.S. Patent Application Republication No. 2004/0100791, or Walker et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,911,493, or Woolford, U.S. Patent No. 5,776,559, in view of Zamarin, EP Patent No. 0851,178, and further in view of Gladsden et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,215,831.

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Claims 5-6, 22-23 and 40-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilotti et al., U.S. Patent Application Republication No. 2004/0100791, or Walker et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,911,493, or Woolford, U.S. Patent No. 5,776,559, in view of Zamarin, EP Patent No. 0851,178, and further in view of Kildow, U.S. Patent No. 6,070,808.

The Applicant now turns to the objection to claims 9-10, 13-14, 30-31 and 34-42 as informal. Claims 9-10 were objected to as informal for including the phrase “a movable door attached to said pole” because the Examiner interpreted the drawings as showing a movable door attached to a power hub, not a pole. As suggested by the Examiner, both claims have been amended to recite “a movable door attached to said power hub”. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully submits that the objection is overcome and the claims are now allowable.

Claims 13, 14, 30 and 31 were objected to as informal because it was unclear if an electrical outlet referenced was the outlet from the independent claim or a separate electrical outlet. As suggested by the Examiner, all four claims have been amended to recite “an additional electrical outlet”. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully submits that the objection is overcome and the claims are now allowable.

Claims 34-42 were objected to as informal for being unclear. Claim 34 has been amended and claims 35-42 all depend from claim 34. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully submits that the objection is overcome and the claims are now allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 1 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bilotti. Bilotti teaches a lighting system for a patio umbrella. The lighting system requires power. As shown in Figures 6 and 7, power is introduced to the lighting system via batteries. Batteries are DC power, not AC power, as well known in the art. Consequently, Bilotti teaches a lighting system for a patio umbrella that is powered by DC power.

Bilotti does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device. As mentioned above, and shown in Figures 6 and 7, the lighting system taught by Bilotti is powered by batteries, which provide DC power. However, Bilotti does not teach AC power being supplied to the lighting system or to any other device. Consequently, Bilotti does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole.

As amended, claim 1 recites “an electrical outlet for supplying AC electricity to an electrical device” where the electrical outlet is included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. As mentioned above, Bilotti does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. Consequently, claim 1 is respectfully submitted to be free of Bilotti and allowable. Additionally, claim 8 depends from claim 1 and thus includes all the limitations of claim 1. Consequently, claim 8 is also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 1 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Walker. Walker teaches an illuminated umbrella. As shown in Figure 1, the umbrella is illuminated with rope lighting 32. The rope lighting 32 requires power. Power is introduced to the rope lighting via sockets 24 that are powered by cabling 26. The sockets appear to be the type of sockets that are used to transmit power to light emitting diode (LED) devices, which are DC devices, not AC devices. Additionally, Walker does not teach any use of AC electrical power. Specifically, Walker does not teach an electrical outlet providing AC power to electrical devices. Consequently, Walker teaches illuminating an umbrella with rope lighting that apparently uses DC power.

Walker does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device. As mentioned above, Walker appears to teach illuminating an umbrella with rope lighting that is powered by DC power. Further, Walker does not teach using AC power in connection with its illuminated umbrella or any other device. Consequently, Walker does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole.

As amended, claim 1 recites “an electrical outlet for supplying AC electricity to an electrical device” where the electrical outlet is included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. As mentioned above, Walker does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. Consequently, claim 1 is respectfully submitted to be free of Walker and allowable.

Additionally, claim 8 depends from claim 1 and thus includes all the limitations of claim

1. Consequently, claim 8 is also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 19, 24-25, 29-30, 34 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wheaton. Wheaton teaches an underwater attachment system. As shown in Figure 4, the system includes a patio umbrella. The umbrella includes a pole with an electrical outlet 144 attached to the pole. The electrical outlet 144 requires power. As described at Col. 5, Lines 59-60, the electrical outlet receives power from a power source that supplies “low voltage direct current, such as 12 volts DC”. Such a power source is suggested for safety purposes due to the aquatic environment of the electrical outlet taught by Wheaton. Consequently, Wheaton teaches providing low voltage DC power from an electrical outlet attached to an umbrella pole.

Wheaton does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device. As mentioned above, for safety purposes, Wheaton teaches providing DC power from an electrical outlet attached to an umbrella pole. Wheaton does not teach using AC power in connection with its electrical outlet or any other device. Consequently, Wheaton does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole.

As amended, claims 1, 19 and 34 recite “an electrical outlet for supplying AC electricity to an electrical device” where the electrical outlet is included in a power hub of

an umbrella pole. As mentioned above, Wheaton does not teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. Consequently, claims 1, 19 and 34 are respectfully submitted to be free of Wheaton and allowable. Additionally, claims 2, 7-8, 12-13, 24-25, 29-30 and 36 depend from claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively, and thus include all the limitations of claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively. Consequently, claims 2, 7-8, 12-13, 24-25, 29-30 and 36 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 19-21, 24-25 and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gugel. Gugel teaches a ladder with an electrical socket mounted on the exterior, not an umbrella with a powered pole.

As amended, claim 19 recites “a pole for supporting a canopy of an umbrella”. Consequently, claim 19 is respectfully submitted to be free of Gugel and allowable. Additionally, claims 20-21, 24-25 and 28-30 depend from claim 19 and thus include all the limitations of claim 19. Consequently, claims 20-21, 24-25 and 28-30 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 19-21, 24-25 and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Zamarin. Zamarin teaches a self-powered ventilation device that does not have an AC outlet, not an umbrella with a powered pole.

As amended, claim 19 recites “a pole for supporting a canopy of an umbrella”. Consequently, claim 19 is respectfully submitted to be free of Zamarin and allowable. Additionally, claims 20-21, 24-25 and 28-30 depend from claim 19 and thus include all the limitations of claim 19. Consequently, claims 20-21, 24-25 and 28-30 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 2-4, 7, 19-21, 25, 29-30, 34, 36 and 38-39 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilotti or Walker in view of Zamarin. As previously mentioned, none of the cited references teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole.

As amended, claims 1, 19 and 34 recite “an electrical outlet for supplying AC electricity to an electrical device” where the electrical outlet is included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. Consequently, claims 1, 19 and 34 are respectfully submitted to be free of Bilotti or Walker in view of Zamarin, and allowable. Additionally, claims 2-4, 7, 20-21, 25, 29-30, 36 and 38-39 depend from claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively, and thus include all the limitations of claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively. Consequently, claims 2-4, 7, 20-21, 25, 29-30, 36 and 38-39 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 19-21, 24-25, 28-34 and 36-39 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woolford in view of Zamarin.

Woolford teaches an electric Christmas tree. Zamarin teaches a self-powered ventilation device. However, neither reference teaches an umbrella with a powered pole.

As amended, claims 19 and 34 recite “a pole for supporting a canopy of an umbrella”. Consequently, claims 19 and 34 are respectfully submitted to be free of Woolford in view of Zamarin, and allowable. Additionally, claims 20-21, 24-25, 28-33 and 36-39 depend from claims 19 and 34, respectively, and thus include all the limitations of claims 19 and 34, respectively. Consequently, claims 20-21, 24-25, 28-33 and 36-39 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 11 and 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker in view of Woolford. As previously mentioned, none of the cited references teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole.

As amended, claim 1 recites “an electrical outlet for supplying AC electricity to an electrical device” where the electrical outlet is included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. Consequently, claim 1 is respectfully submitted to be free of Walker in view of Woolford, and allowable. Additionally, claims 11 and 14-18 depend from claim 1 and thus include all the limitations of claim 1. Consequently, claims 11 and 14-18 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 9, 26 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wheaton in view of Gladsden. As previously mentioned, none of the cited references teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole.

As amended, claims 1, 19 and 34 recite “an electrical outlet for supplying AC electricity to an electrical device” where the electrical outlet is included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. Consequently, claims 1, 19 and 34 are respectfully submitted to be free of Wheaton in view of Gladsden, and allowable. Additionally, claims 9, 26 and 35 depend from claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively, and thus include all the limitations of claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively. Consequently, claims 9, 26 and 35 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gugel or Zamarin in view of Kildow. Gugel teaches a ladder with an electrical socket mounted in a limb. Zamarin teaches a self-powered ventilation device. Kildow teaches a mobile spraying and cleaning apparatus. However, none of the references teach an umbrella with a powered pole.

As amended, claim 19 recites “a pole for supporting a canopy of an umbrella”. Consequently, claim 19 is respectfully submitted to be free of Gugel or Zamarin in view of Kildow, and allowable. Additionally, claims 22 and 23 depend from claim 19 and thus

include all the limitations of claim 19. Consequently, claims 22 and 23 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gugel or Zamarin in view of Gladsden. Gugel teaches a ladder with an electrical socket mounted in a limb. Zamarin teaches a self-powered ventilation device. Gladsden teaches a combination lamp-post and utility outlet. However, none of the references teach an umbrella with a powered pole.

As amended, claim 19 recites “a pole for supporting a canopy of an umbrella”. Consequently, claim 19 is respectfully submitted to be free of Gugel or Zamarin in view of Gladsden, and allowable. Additionally, claims 26 and 27 depend from claim 19 and thus include all the limitations of claim 19. Consequently, claims 26 and 27 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 10, 27 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilotti, Walker, or Woolford, in view of Zamarin, and further in view of Gladsden. As previously mentioned, none of the cited references teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole.

As amended, claims 1, 19 and 34 recite “an electrical outlet for supplying AC electricity to an electrical device” where the electrical outlet is included in a power hub of

an umbrella pole. Consequently, claims 1, 19 and 34 are respectfully submitted to be free of Bilotti, Walker, or Woolford, in view of Zamarin, and further in view of Gladsden, and allowable. Additionally, claims 10, 27 and 42 depend from claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively, and thus include all the limitations of claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively. Consequently, claims 10, 27 and 42 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 5-6, 22-23 and 40-41 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilotti, Walker or Woolford, in view of Zamarin, and further in view of Kildow. As previously mentioned, none of the cited references teach providing AC power to an electrical device from an electrical outlet included in a power hub of an umbrella pole.

As amended, claims 1, 19 and 34 recite “an electrical outlet for supplying AC electricity to an electrical device” where the electrical outlet is included in a power hub of an umbrella pole. Consequently, claims 1, 19 and 34 are respectfully submitted to be free of Bilotti, Walker or Woolford, in view of Zamarin, and further in view of Kildow, and allowable. Additionally, claims 5-6, 22-23 and 40-41 depend from claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively, and thus include all the limitations of claims 1, 19 and 34, respectively. Consequently, claims 5-6, 22-23 and 40-41 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

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In light of the aforementioned amendments and discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance.

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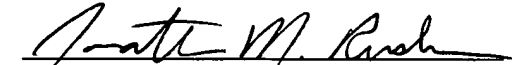
CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicant can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the Applicant at the number below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/28/05


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